Mr. K. R. Viswambharan *(Ezhuvas-Talappalli):* Are the rules already framed and published in the Gazette ?

Rao Bahadur M. Narayana Menon *(Commissioner of Police):* These have been submitted for Government approval.

Dr. SANKARAMBAL—PAY AND PROSPECTS OF

125. Mr. K. R. Viswambharan *(Ezhuvas-Talappalli):* Will Government be pleased to state.—

(*a*) whether Dr. Sankarambal, F.R.C.S. (England), is at present in the Medical service of the State;

(*b*) if not, where has she gone;

(*c*) when did she rejoin service after qualifying herself for F.R.C.S.; what was the pay then given to her;

(*d*) was she given any promotion after that; if so, to which grade of pay;

(*e*) whether she did apply for a Civil Surgeoncy after her re-joining duty; was her request granted;

(*f*) whether any of the medical officers of the State possess a better qualification in Surgery than her?

Dr. T. Verghese *(Chief Medical Officer):*

(*a*) No.

(*b*) She has gone to take up service in the Mysore State.

(*c*) On 2nd Karkadagam 1114. Her pay then was Rs. 135.

(*d*) No.

(*e*) No; but she had requested that her status and pay might be raised. The request was not granted.

(*f*) Academically none, but professionally there are several.

Mr. M. K. Devassy *(Adur):* What is the meaning of answer to (f), "but professionally there are several" ?

Dr. T. Verghese *(Chief Medical Officer):* Professionally there are people better qualified and who are more competent.

Mr. E. Ikkanda Warriar *(Cheruthuruthi):* In the opinion of whom ?

Mr. M. K. Devassy *(Adur):* I think it is very bad to have included that part of the answer.

Mr. E. Ikkanda Warriar *(Cheruthuruthi):* Who determines competency ?

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Dr. T. Verghese *(Chief Medical Officer):* They are better qualified as a result of long experience.

Mr. K. R. Viswambharan *(Ezhuvas-Talappalli):* My question was only with regard to the qualification. It is extremely bad, I submit, to have stated that. When I ask the qualification of a particular officer, it is not my intention to elicit all his professional merit or any other thing.

Rama Varmha Tampuran *(Comptroller of Finance and Accounts):* But the answer should be complete. There are other officers also in the State.

Mr. E. Ikkanda Warriar *(Cheruthuruthi):* At the expense of an officer who is leaving the services of the State ?

Mr. President : The hon'ble member's question does not refer to academic qualification alone.

Mr. A. V. Moothedan *(Chalakkudi):* The answer given here is too hard.

Mr. President : It is a matter of opinion.

Mr. A. Eachara Menon *(Chittur-Rural):* Was she given sufficient encouragement ?

Dr. T. Verghese *(Chief Medical Officer):* Yes. She has been given every encouragement. In the beginning she was only a Sub-Assistant Surgeon. But soon after her return from England, she was promoted as an Assistant Surgeon. The Government have spent also some Rs. 10,000 on her.

Mr. K. R. Viswambharan *(Ezhuvas-Talappalli):* May I know whether F.R.C.S., is not the highest qualification in surgery in the world ?

Dr. T. Verghese *(Chief Medical Officer):* I don't know that.

Mr. K. R. Viswambharan *(Ezhuvas-Talappalli):* I mean in the British Empire ?

Dr. T. Verghese *(Chief Medical Officer):* It is considered to be a very high qualification, but I cannot say whether it is the highest qualification.

Mr. K. Kochukunhan Kaimal *(Vadakkancheri):* Who has been appointed in her place now ?

Dr. T. Verghese *(Chief Medical Officer):* One Dr. Sumitra was appointed.

Mr. K. Kochukunhan Kaimal *(Vadakkancheri):* Was she in the Department already ?

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Dr. T. Verghese *(Chief Medical Officer):* Yes. She was in the Department as an Honorary Assistant Surgeon.

Mr. K. Kochukunhan Kaimal *(Vadakkancheri):* Is there any other Surgeon in the Department who is affected by her appointment?

Dr. T. Verghese *(Chief Medical Officer):* That question does not arise.

Mr. E. Ikkanda Warriar *(Cheruthuruthi):* What is the length of service of Dr. Sankarambal?

Dr. T. Verghese *(Chief Medical Officer):* About 17 or 18 years.

Mr. E. Ikkanda Warriar *(Cheruthuruthi):* Was she given any pension when she left the service?

Dr. T. Verghese *(Chief Medical Officer):* No.

Mr. K. R. Viswambharan *(Ezhuvas-Talappalli):* May I know whether there is any other F. R. C. S. in the Cochin Government service except Dr. Sankarambal?

Dr. T. Verghese *(Chief Medical Officer):* No.

Mr. K. R. Viswambharan *(Ezhuvas-Talappalli):* Is it not a loss to the State to have sent away such an eminently qualified person?

Dr. T. Verghese *(Chief Medical Officer):* Government did not send her away.

Mr. K. R. Viswambharan *(Ezhuvas-Talappalli):* Was she given all encouragement?

Dr. T. Verghese *(Chief Medical Officer):* She was given every encouragement.

Mr. K. R. Viswambharan *(Ezhuvas-Talappalli):* May I know from the Hon'ble Member for Medicine the number of F. R. C. Ss. in South India.

Dr. T. Verghese *(Chief Medical Officer):* There are several.

Mr. C. V. Iyyu *(Kunnamkulam):* May I know the encouragement given to her?

Dr. T. Verghese *(Chief Medical Officer):* To start with she was only a Sub-Assistant Surgeon on Rs. 70 or 80. When she came back from England, she was raised to the cadre of an Assistant Surgeon. The fact that she was given the necessary financial assistance up to the extent of Rs. 10 or 12 thousand which enabled her to go to England and qualify and get this job in Mysore, I think, is itself sufficient encouragement. As a matter of fact, if

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Government would give this sort of financial assistance to any other lady Doctor, there will be many who are prepared to go to England and get this qualification.

Mr. E. Ikkanda Warriar *(Cheruthuruthi):* Did you pay this amount free to her?

Dr. T. Verghese *(Chief Medical Officer):* Only on condition that she should serve for five years.

Mr. E. Ikkanda Warriar *(Cheruthuruthi):* Is she to repay the amount?

Dr. T. Verghese *(Chief Medical Officer):* Yes. She has to return a part of the amount as she did not fulfil the conditions laid down by the Government.

Mr. E. Ikkanda Warriar *(Cheruthuruthi):* How much?

Dr. T. Verghese *(Chief Medical Officer):* I think about Rs. 2,000.

Mr. E. Ikkanda Warriar *(Cheruthuruthi):* Not only her long service but you are making her pay back what you gave her in the shape of financial assistance. You don't give even pension.

Dr. T. Verghese *(Chief Medical Officer):* She wanted to go away of her own accord.

Mr. President: Is it the contention of the hon'ble member that every time a person goes outside he should be paid pension?

Mr. E. Ikkanda Warriar *(Cheruthuruthi):* They expect some encouragement from the Government?

Mr. President: That is a different question.

Mr. A. Eachara Menon *(Chittur Rural):* Is she to pay anything hereafter?

Mr. M. K. Devassy *(Adur):* May I know whether the Government have any information regarding her present salary in Mysore?

Dr. T. Verghese *(Chief Medical Officer):* No.

Mr. T. S. Ramachandra Ayyar *(Chittur-Tattamangalam):* Is Dr. Sankarambal an Ezhuva lady *(Laughter)*?

Dr. T. Verghese *(Chief Medical Officer):* You know perfectly well that she is a Brahmin lady. That is not a fair question.

Mr. M. K. Devassy *(Adur):* You say she is a well-known person.

Mr. C. R. Iyyunni *(Trichur-South):* May I know, Sir, whether F. R. C. S. is not a rare degree?

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Dr. T. Verghese *(Chief Medical Officer):* It is not a degree at all. It is only a diploma.

Mr. K. R. Viswambharan *(Ezhuvas-Talappalli):* Is it not a fact that there are only very few people in South India who possess this qualification?

Dr. T. Verghese *(Chief Medical Officer):* There are several now. In Cochin State there are two.

Mr. E. Ikkanda Warriar *(Cheruthuruthi):* Probably Cochin State does not deserve such a highly qualified person!

Dr. T. Verghese *(Chief Medical Officer):* I don't think it will be fair to ask such a question to the Government.

Mr. C. R. Iyyunni *(Trichur-South):* May I know whether there are more than two in Travancore with this diploma?

Dr. T. Verghese *(Chief Medical Officer):* There are three as far as I know. But there may be more.

Mr. V. N. Damodaran Nambiar *(Trippunittura):* May I know, Sir, whether any legitimate promotion was denied to her after her return from England?

Dr. T. Verghese *(Chief Medical Officer):* No.

VOTING OF DEMANDS FOR GRANTS—*(cont.)*

1. Land Revenue—Rs. 2,82,610

Mr. A. Madhava Prabhu *(Diwan Peishkar):* Sir, I beg to move for a grant of Rs. 2,82,610 under "1 Land Revenue." In doing so I just propose to answer some of the general criticisms that were levelled against the departmental budget in the course of the general discussion on the budget.

The first criticism that I propose to answer is the criticism by the Hon'ble Member Mr. Nambiar who said that the next year's budget shows a higher figure in the land revenue receipts than this year's budget in spite of the fact that next year there are proposals for the purpose of giving remissions. The difference between the receipts in this year's budget and that in the next year's budget, so far as the figure is concerned, is about Rs. 30,000. Two facts have to be borne in mind with reference to these figures. The first is that this year on account of the prohibition of applying the provisions of the Revenue Recovery Act to the collection of taxes, we will not be able to collect a pretty big portion of the demand under land revenue this year. Now, that has to be added to next year's budget on the "receipts" side. That means if Rs. 50,000 remains to be collected this year and if that is added on to the next year's figures, that

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